AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A method for remotely monitoring or controlling activities within multiple facilities geographically dispersed within at least one wireless network adapted to transmit GSM short messages to allow the facilities to communicate with other terminals without making a wireless telephone call, the method comprising:

(a) ——providing the selected facility with a gateway comprising a processor, a transceiver and a SIM card adapted to transmit short messaging service messages;

(b) ——periodically causing the gateway to formulate a short message reporting on activities within the selected facility at which the gateway is located;

(c) ——transmitting the message over the GSM network via a Short Messaging Center coupled to a Mobile Switching Center within the GSM network;

(d) ——receiving the message at a terminal selected from a group of devices consisting of a mobile station, a work station and a central processor; and

(e) ——controlling devices located at a selected facility by formulating a control message and forwarding it via the GSM network to the selected facility, wherein the gateway at the facility processes the control message in order to control one or more devices coupled to the gateway, and wherein a direct connection is provided for transmitting the short message between the gateway and the terminal without making a telephone call.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 21 further comprising the step of collecting multiple messages from the selected facility, storing those messages in a database associated with a central processor and processing the stored messages at the central processor to display information concerning activities at the selected facility.

24. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 21 in which the control message is formulated by a user on a communication device selected from the group consisting of a pager, a cellular handset, an internet wireless communicator or a workstation.

25. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 24 further comprising the step of coupling the central processor to an internet protocol network to allow users to view the displayed information concerning activities at the selected facility.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 21 further comprising the step of monitoring energy uses within the selected facility by periodically polling at least one device therein.

28-30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25 further comprising the step of monitoring energy uses within the selected facility by periodically polling at least one device therein.

32. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 27 further comprising the step of aggregating the periodic polls and uploading the aggregated information to a user's terminal.

33. (Currently Amended) A system for transmitting data to and from multiple gateways deployed in homes or businesses and capable of collecting data concerning usage or operation of various devices located in the homes or businesses, the system comprising:

a) multiple gateways, each adapted to formulate or accept a wireless packet data transmission, wherein each gateway is configured to process the wireless packet data transmission to control one or more devices coupled to the gateway;

b) a base station controller adapted to route data forwarded to the base station controller via wireless transmission to a support node, for the support node formatting the message into a format selected from the group consisting of internet protocol, X.25 protocol and a data protocol, for transmission over public land or mobile networks depending on which network over which the message will be transmitted; and

c) a terminal for receiving the formatted messages.

34. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 33 wherein the terminal is a central processor that collates the formatted messages to describe the conditions within the facility associated with a selected one of the multiple gateways.

35. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 34 further comprising a workstation for accessing the formatted messages collated by the central processor.

36. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 35 wherein the workstation allows entry of commands to be delivered via the support node to one or groups of the multiple gateways.

37. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 33 further comprising a mobile station or a fixed terminal from which a user may formulate and send a message directly to one or groups of the multiple gateways.

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38. (Currently Amended) A method for using a wireless network to deliver messages from or to each of multiple gateways that are deployed in geographically-dispersed facilities comprising:

a)————formulating a message from a gateway for wireless transmission according to a GPRS format;

b)————transmitting the message to a network element for identifying that message; and

c)————transferring the message from the network element to a central processor for collating the transferred messages with other messages or data related to a selected gateway,

wherein a user accesses the collected message via the central processor, and controls the gateway by formulating a command that will be routed directly from the user's mobile station to the gateway.

39-40. (Canceled)

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41. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 38 in which the network element is a base station controller that determines that the message is a GPRS data transmission and routes the message to a second network element comprising a support node.

42. (Canceled)

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43. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 38 in which the transmitting step comprises the step of coupling the network element to an Internet Protocol network for forwarding the message to the central processor.

44-45. (Canceled).

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46. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 41 in which the transmitting step comprises the step of coupling the network element to an Internet Protocol network for forwarding the message to the central processor.

47. (Canceled).

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48. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 38 in which the formulating step occurs when a user formulates the message from a mobile station.

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